

**IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE**

In re:

BIG LOTS, INC., *et al.*,

Debtors.¹

Chapter 11

Case No. 24-11967 (JKS)

(Jointly Administered)

Re: Docket No. 7

INTERIM ORDER AUTHORIZING (I) DEBTORS TO PAY CERTAIN PREPETITION TAXES, GOVERNMENTAL ASSESSMENTS, AND FEES AND (II) FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS TO HONOR AND PROCESS RELATED CHECKS AND TRANSFERS

Upon the motion (the “**Motion**”)² of Big Lots, Inc. and certain of its affiliates (collectively, the “**Debtors**”), each of which is a debtor and debtor in possession in the Chapter 11 Cases, for entry of interim and final orders, pursuant to sections 105(a), 363(b), 507(a)(8), and 541 of the Bankruptcy Code and Bankruptcy Rules 6003 and 6004, (a) authorizing, but not directing, the Debtors to pay, in their sole discretion, the Taxes and Fees, whether asserted prior to, on, or after the Petition Date and (b) authorizing the applicable financial institutions to receive, process, honor, and pay all checks or wire transfers used by the Debtors to pay the foregoing, as more fully described in the Motion; and the Court having jurisdiction to consider the Motion and the relief requested therein pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1334 and the *Amended Standing Order of Reference*

¹ The debtors and debtors in possession in these chapter 11 cases, along with the last four digits of their respective employer identification numbers, are as follows: Great Basin, LLC (6158); Big Lots, Inc. (9097); Big Lots Management, LLC (7948); Consolidated Property Holdings, LLC (0984); Broyhill LLC (7868); Big Lots Stores - PNS, LLC (5262); Big Lots Stores, LLC (6811); BLBO Tenant, LLC (0552); Big Lots Stores - CSR, LLC (6182); CSC Distribution LLC (8785); Closeout Distribution, LLC (0309); Durant DC, LLC (2033); AVDC, LLC (3400); GAFDC LLC (8673); PAFDC LLC (2377); WAFDC, LLC (6163); INFDC, LLC (2820); Big Lots eCommerce LLC (9612); and Big Lots F&S, LLC (3277). The address of the debtors’ corporate headquarters is 4900 E. Dublin-Granville Road, Columbus, OH 43081.

² Capitalized terms used but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Motion.

from the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, dated February 29, 2012; and the Court having found that this is a core proceeding pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 157; and the Court having found that it may enter a final order consistent with Article III of the United States Constitution; and the Court having found that venue of the Chapter 11 Cases and related proceedings being proper in this district pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1408 and 1409; and due and proper notice of the Motion having been provided to the Notice Parties, such notice having been adequate and appropriate under the circumstances, and it appearing that no other or further notice need be provided; and the Court having reviewed and considered the Motion and the Ramsden Declaration; and the Court having held a hearing to consider the relief requested in the Motion on an interim basis (the “**Hearing**”); and the Court having determined that the legal and factual bases set forth in the Motion and the Ramsden Declaration and at the Hearing establish just cause for the relief granted herein; and the Debtors having submitted that the relief requested in the Motion is in the best interests of the Debtors, their creditors, their estates, and all other parties in interest; and the Court having determined that the relief requested in the Motion is necessary to avoid immediate and irreparable harm to the Debtors and their estates as contemplated by Bankruptcy Rule 6003; and all objections and reservations of rights filed or asserted in respect of the Motion, if any, having been withdrawn, resolved, or overruled; and upon all of the proceedings had before the Court; and after due deliberation and sufficient cause appearing therefor,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The Motion is granted on an interim basis to the extent set forth in this order (this “**Order**”).
2. The Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to pay, in their sole discretion, the Taxes and Fees to the applicable Governmental Authorities and Governmental Intermediaries;

provided, however, that, absent further order of the Court, any payments made pursuant to this Order on account of Taxes and Fees owed for periods prior to the Petition Date shall not exceed \$36,135,000 in the aggregate.

3. Subject to paragraph 2 of this Order, the Debtors are authorized, but not directed, to continue remitting, in their sole discretion, the Taxes and Fees in the ordinary course of business on a post-petition basis.

4. All applicable banks and other financial institutions are hereby authorized to receive, process, honor, and pay any and all checks, drafts, wires, check transfer requests, or automated clearinghouse transfers evidencing amounts paid by the Debtors under this Order whether presented prior to, on, or after the Petition Date. Such banks and financial institutions are authorized to rely on the representations of the Debtors as to which checks are issued or authorized to be paid pursuant to this Order without any duty of further inquiry and without liability for following the Debtors' instructions.

5. The Debtors are authorized, but not required, to (a) issue new post-petition checks or effect new fund transfers (in each case, in their sole discretion) for the Taxes and Fees to replace any prepetition checks or fund transfer requests that may be dishonored or rejected and (b) reimburse the relevant Governmental Authority or the applicable payee, as the case may be, for any fees or costs incurred by them in connection with a dishonored or voided check or funds transfer.

6. A final hearing to consider the relief requested in the Motion shall be held on October 9, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time) and any objections or responses to the Motion shall be filed and served on the Notice Parties so as to be actually received on or prior to October 2, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern Time).

7. Nothing in this Order or any action taken by the Debtors in furtherance of the implementation hereof shall be deemed to constitute an assumption or rejection of any executory contract or unexpired lease pursuant to section 365 of the Bankruptcy Code, and all of the Debtors' rights with respect to such matters are expressly reserved.

8. Notwithstanding the relief granted herein and any actions taken hereunder, nothing contained herein shall (a) create, nor is it intended to create, any rights in favor of, or enhance the status of any claim held by, any person or entity or (b) be deemed to convert the priority of any claim from a prepetition claim into an administrative expense claim.

9. Nothing in this Order nor the Debtors' payment of claims pursuant to this Order shall be construed as or deemed to constitute (a) an agreement or admission by the Debtors as to the amount, priority, character, or validity of any claim against the Debtors on any grounds, (b) a grant of third-party beneficiary status or bestowal of any additional rights on any third party, (c) a waiver or impairment of any rights, claims, or defenses of the Debtors' rights to dispute the amount, priority, character, or validity of any claim on any grounds, whether under bankruptcy or non-bankruptcy law, (d) a promise by the Debtors to pay any claim, or (e) an implication or admission by the Debtors that such claim is payable pursuant to this Order.

10. Any Bankruptcy Rule or Local Rule that might otherwise delay the effectiveness of this Order is hereby waived, and the terms and conditions of this Order shall be effective and enforceable immediately upon its entry.

11. The Debtors are authorized to take any action necessary or appropriate to implement and effectuate the terms of, and the relief granted in, this Order without seeking further order of the Court.

12. The Court shall retain jurisdiction over any matter arising from or related to the implementation, interpretation, and enforcement of this Order.

Dated: September 11th, 2024
Wilmington, Delaware


J. KATE STICKLES
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE